

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 18-20, 22-25, 27, and 36 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in continuing applications. Claims 3, 8, 21, and 26 have been amended to place the claims in independent form. Claims 3, 8, 10-17, 21, 26, 28-35 and 37 are currently pending.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indication of allowable subject matter. Specifically, claims 10-17 and 28-35 are allowed and claims 3, 8, 21, 26, and 37 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 3, 8, 21, and 26 have been amended to place the claims in independent form. Claim 37 depends from claim 21, which is allowable.

Claims 1-2, 6-7 and 24-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Breslau (US Pat. No. 6,421,736). Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 24 and 25 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejection is moot.

Claims 4, 5, 9, 18-20, 22, 23, 27, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Breslau in view of Barlow (US Pat. No 6,275,935). Claims 4, 5, 9, 18-20, 22, 23, 27, and 36 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejection is moot.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels, however, that further amendment and/or discussion may be helpful in facilitating prosecution of the case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at the number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,



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